

one of the small ponds near the Small Mammals' House. Five eggs were laid by the female in one of the breeding-boxes about the second week in April, and five young birds were hatched on the 15th of May. One of the five died in the first downy plumage, which in this species very nearly resembles that of the young Ruddy Sheldrake (*Tadorna rutila*). When about three months old the remaining four moulted into the first feather-dress, in which stage they were all four alike, and nearly resembled the *adult male*, having the head and neck black. In the autumnal moult three of them threw off the black hood, and assumed the characteristic white head of the female.

This curious change of plumage appears to me of considerable importance, as I am not aware that any previous instance has been recorded in which, the sexes being differently coloured, the dress of the immature bird resembles that of the *adult male*.

### 3. Descriptions of a New Genus and a New Species of Mollusks. By HENRY ADAMS, F.L.S.

#### Genus BROTHIA, H. Adams.

*Testa fusiformis; spira elevata, anfractibus ad angulum spinis armatis, ultimo antice subrostrato; apertura subovata, antrorsum producta. Operculum corneum, tenue, rotundatum, multispirale.*

#### BROTHIA PAGODULA, H. Ad.

*Melania pagodula*, Gould, Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist. ii. p. 218.

*Io pagodula*, Gould, Otia Conch. p. 252.

This singular shell, which was first described by Dr. Gould as a *Melania*, has much the appearance of an *Io*, to which genus he subsequently referred it in his 'Otia Conchologica.' The operculum, however, which I have recently had an opportunity of examining, not only separates it from that genus, but shows its position to be in the *Cerithiidae*, and not in the *Melaniidae*. It forms, in my opinion, the type of a new group in the former family. It is from the river Thoungyin, Tavoy, Siam.

#### COLINA GRACILIS, H. Adams.

*C. testa elongato-turrita, in medio tumida, tenui, pallide fulva; spira truncata, anfractibus ad 10, convexiusculis, longitudinaliter plicatis et transverse concinne striatis, plicis in anfractu ultimo obsoletis; sutura cingulo moniliformi ornata; anfractu ultimo valde contracto, et in medio angulato; apertura semi-ovali, canali brevi, recurvo; columella obliqua, vix arcuata; labro valde expanso, incrassato, subreflexo.*

Long. 10, lat.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mill.

*Hab.* Eastern Seas (*Coll. H. A.*).

This species is most nearly allied to *C. macrostoma*, Hinds, but is smaller and more attenuated; the last whorl is angulated in the middle and more contracted, and the sculpture, although of the same character, is more sharply defined; it is also without any of the coloured markings which distinguish *C. macrostoma*.

#### 4. On the Structure and Affinities of *Microhynchus laniger*.

By ST. GEORGE MIVART, F.L.S., F.Z.S.

(Plate XV.)

##### MICRORHYNCHUS LANIGER (Linn.). (Pl. XV.)

*Lemur laniger*, Linn. Syst. Nat. ed. Gmelin, i. p. 44. no. 10; Shaw, Gen. Zool. i. p. 99, pl. 34; G. Cuvier, Règne An. t. 1. p. 29; Blainville, Ostéogr. Lemur, pls. 8 & 11.

*L. lanatus*, Schreber, Säug. pl. 42 A.

*Lichanotus laniger*, Illiger, Prodrömus, p. 72.

*L. avahi*, Van der Hoeven, Tijdschr. v. nat. Gesch. xi. p. 44.

*Indris longicaudatus*, Geoffroy St.-Hilaire, Ann. du Mus. xix. p. 158; Mém. sur les Makis (1796), et Tabl. des Quad. (1812); Desmarest, Mammalogie, p. 97.

*Indris laniger*, Smith, S. Afr. Journ. (1835) ii. p. 27.

*Indri laniger*, Fischer, Syn. p. 73, et Anat. der Maki (1804), p. 16.

*Semnocebus avahi*, Lesson, Species (1840), p. 210.

*S. laniger*, Vrolik in Todd's Cyclop. of Anat. & Phys. iv. p. 215. f. 136.

*Habrocebus lanatus*, Wagner, Schreber, Suppl. i. p. 258; v. p. 140.

*Avahis laniger*, Isid. G. St.-Hilaire, Leçons des Mamm. et Cat. Primates, p. 69; Paul Gervais, Mammifères, pt. i. p. 164, pl. 7.

*Avahi*, Jourdan, L'Institut, t. ii. p. 231, 1834; Chenu, Encyclop. d'Hist. Nat. Quadrumanes, p. 256, pl. 32.

*Microhynchus laniger*, Jourdan, Thèse inaug. à la Fac. des Sc. de Grenoble, 1834; J. E. Gray, P. Z. S. 1863, p. 141; St. George Mivart, P. Z. S. 1864, p. 638.

*Maquis a bourres*, Sonnerat, Voy. aux Indes Orient. t. ii. p. 142, pl. 89, 1782.

*Autre espèce de maki*, Buffon, Suppl. vii. p. 123, pl. 35.

This species was first described and figured by Sonnerat in his 'Voyage aux Indes Orientales'\*; but the muzzle is drawn much too long and pointed. The animal is moderately well represented in plate 35 of the seventh supplementary volume of Buffon's 'Histoire Naturelle,' published in the ever memorable year 1789.

In 1839 an excellent representation of the skull and dentition appeared in De Blainville's 'Ostéographie,' Lemur, pls. 8 and 11.

\* Vol. iv. p. 92, and pl. 87, in the octavo edition in the library of the British Museum.